

Officership



Officership—the quality of being a commissioned officer—is a topic of growing interest among senior Army leaders. What does it mean to be a U.S. Army commissioned officer? In his introductory article “Officership,” Don Snider explains that the commissioned officer corps needs to develop a self-identity to which commissioned officers subscribe. He identifies four dimensions that provide a framework for discussing officership: the officer as warfighter; the officer as servant to the Nation; the officer as member of a profession; and the officer as leader of character. In “The Officer as Warfighter,” Majors Paul Yingling and John Nagl examine more deeply the commissioned officer’s roles as warfighter and as leader of character. Major Suzanne Nielson, in “The Officer as Servant,” considers the commissioned officer in the roles of servant to the Nation and as practitioner of a well-defined set of skills and specialized knowledge.